

KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

Vol. 65, No. 42
Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2005

Develop America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

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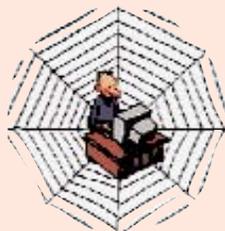
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Keesler News on Web:
<http://www.keesler.af.mil>

'Tis the season



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Maile Dennison shops for Christmas decorations during the opening of the new shopette and liquor store Monday on Meadows Drive. The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has expanded the store's inventory to include some items carried at the base exchange prior to Hurricane Katrina. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Mrs. Dennison's husband is Staff Sgt. Glenn Dennison, 338th Training Squadron.

Medicare prescription program may not be for everyone – Tricare

By Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Tricare Management Activity officials encourage beneficiaries to weigh the facts before deciding whether to sign on to Medicare's new prescription drug plan.

The plan, called Medicare Part D, opened last week.

Coverage under the plan begins Jan. 1 and is open to anyone already enrolled in Medicare. This is the first time Medicare has offered pre-

scription drug coverage for its estimated 42 million beneficiaries.

Tricare officials estimate about 1.7 million of the 9.2 million Tricare beneficiaries are eligible to enroll in the new plan, but emphasize it isn't the most prudent choice for everyone.

In most cases, there's no added value for Tricare beneficiaries to buy the new drug coverage, officials said. Tricare generally pays as

Please see **Medicare**, Page 9

Flu shots available for some

Priorities: Active duty, high-risk

81st Medical Group

Flu vaccinations are available in the immunizations clinic for all active-duty military members and medically high-risk people.

Appointments are unnecessary at the clinic, which is in the dental clinic facility.

The immunizations clinic staff is also going to individual squadrons to vaccinate their active-duty members.

Monday, flu shots are available to dependents.

Medical high-risk beneficiaries:

Age 65 and older.

Adults or children with chronic disorders of the

Pulmonary or cardiovascular system (asthma, diabetes, etc.).

Children age 6-23 months, regardless of medical risk.

Household contacts and out-of-home caretakers of infants from newborns to 23 months.

Those highly susceptible to disease.

Pregnant women.

Household members, including children of persons in groups at high risk.

For more information, call 377-6543.

COMMENTARY

Separating 'stuff' that matters from what's meaningless

By Col. (Dr.) Leon Kundrotas

81st Medical Operations Squadron commander

Walking the dog along the Back Bay shoreline on base, I came across debris that recalled the destruction of Hurricane Katrina.

The debris included a bathtub ring, plastic toys, a photograph, furniture parts and just plain junk. The muddied photograph, colors morphed and faded into a swirled blur, was of a family gathering. Judging from the clothing, it was likely from the 1980s; somebody's memory of a holiday long gone.

Many of us have experienced material loss from Katrina. The collective loss is on an analogue scale, from minimal to total. Katrina was personal in that the storm came into our homes or cars and took our "stuff." Stuff in our culture defines who we are.

After giving thanks for the safety of the things that really count — life, health and loved ones — we focus on personal things that were damaged, lost or destroyed ... our "stuff."

"It's just stuff ..."

Not meaningful stuff includes personal objects accrued without emotional attachment. Generally, these are high-tech electronics — expensive, but replaceable. These high-tech items become obsolete quickly and were probably outdated anyhow.

The silver lining in the storm cloud is that we get to upgrade to a brand-new item with twice the speed and memory or is plasma, high-definition and accompanied by home theatre speakers. Clothing can fall into this category, too. Most react to the loss of these

items the same way those who put a burglar alarm on the house after they've been robbed ... "Gee, we need more insurance for next time." For this stuff lost, you just lick your wounds, use your credit card and move on.

"It's just stuff. Yeah, but it was my stuff!"

The meaningful stuff are items with emotional attachment, items that defined who we are or what level of success we've achieved. Generally, these items are of little monetary value, but irreplaceable. They aren't upgradeable. These are family picture albums, certificates of accomplishment, mementos of sentimental significance, signed yearbooks from ages ago or objects given to us by deceased family members. These items extract an emotional toll when lost or damaged. They were once part your life.

To overcome the emotional loss of meaningful stuff isn't as easy as using a credit card.

After separation of your stuff into these categories, you have to identify why the meaningful stuff was important to you. This is a personal task that takes time and introspection. Meaningful stuff can link us to emotions and past good times, but they're still material. Think about this link and re-establish the emotional bond the stuff represented or symbolized. Concentration on the human dimension and its personal meaning melts the need for possession.

From the losses caused by Katrina, learn what's truly of value in your life. Use this experience as an opportunity. Future storms won't be able to destroy the knowledge gained that people and relationships are what's really important.

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number. Items of general interest may appear in this column.

IT WEIGHS 68 TONS.

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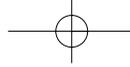
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Call for more information about donating platelets or blood.

To donate platelets: Mrs. Rose Weatherly (228) 377-9311

To donate blood: 377-9306 or 9304



TRAINING AND EDUCATION

PME boosts civilian leadership opportunities

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

In the Air Force's current climate of shared leadership, civilians are being provided opportunities to fill positions that have historically been held by military officers.

For goal-oriented civilians, there are many opportunities to attend professional military education courses to prepare for career-advancement opportunities.

Quotas allow civilians to attend PME courses which provide leadership doctrine and management philosophy through in-residence attendance, on-base seminars or correspondence courses.

Last year, Kimberly Dunaway, acting faculty development chief for 2nd Air Force, completed Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. A 15-year civil service employee, she's worked at 2nd Air Force headquarters for 10 years.

SOS is a five-week program offering selected civilians in general schedule grades 9-12 an opportunity to learn the total Air Force, including the roles of their military counterparts.

The curriculum includes officership application, leadership tools and air and space power through readings, lectures, seminars, and field exercises support each other to provide in-depth coverage.

Physical fitness training and team-building sports activities are integral components of the SOS curriculum. Civilian students are expected to be in peak condition and able to do 3-mile runs and the sit-ups and push-ups required for military members.

Ms. Dunaway pursued a year-long training program to meet the demanding physical challenges.

"I've always exercised on a regular basis, but I had never done a 3-mile run in my life," she pointed out.

"Troy State University applied the three credit hours obtained from SOS toward



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Ms. Dunaway was able to apply SOS credit toward her master's degree.

my master's degree," she added. Since she came to Keesler 13 years ago, she's also obtained her associate degree from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and her bachelor's degree from Faulkner University.

Ms. Dunaway also attended the basic instructor course, principles of instructional system development, technical writing principles, objectives and test and teletechniques broadcasting school.

"The Air Force has been absolutely wonderful in allowing me the opportunity to obtain training and education at military schools," Ms. Dunaway explained. "The Air Force financed these endeavors and awarded college credit through the Community College of the Air Force. As a civilian, I couldn't obtain a CCAF degree, but CCAF credits may be applied toward degrees at other colleges."

By taking advantage of educational opportunities, she's advanced from basic military training classification specialist to nonprior service reclassification and accessions specialist to technical training

course program manager for Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and chief of distributed learning before moving into her current position.

As 2nd Air Force's acting faculty development chief, Ms. Dunaway has been detailed into a position three grades higher than her current grade since July.

"Even though civilian personnel rules prevent me from being paid at the higher level, I should still benefit from this assignment as it documents my experience," she pointed out. "My education has broadened my career opportunities as I'm now educationally qualified to hold professional series positions."

The 6½-week Air and Space Basic Course at Maxwell gives selected civilian interns and newly-commissioned officers a common understanding of air and space power, history, doctrine, operations, joint war fighting and core values.

Palace Acquire interns, Copper Cap interns in their second or third year of training and base-level interns with at least six months of service are eligible to attend.

Physical conditioning is an integral part of the ASBC curriculum, too. Students do 3-mile runs, crunches, pushups, run an obstacle course and participate in physical readiness training.

Interested civilians should discuss possible nomination for in-residence attendance to

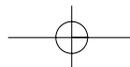
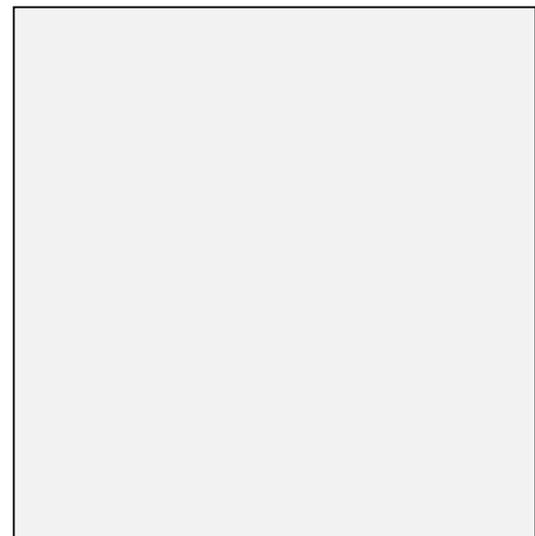
On the Web

For more information about resident PME, visit <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/DPKD/guide/sec-3.htm>.

For more information about nonresident PME, visit <http://www.maxwell.af.mil/au/afiadl/main.htm> and click on "catalogs."

PME with their supervisor. "In early April, the Air Force Personnel Center sends out the SOS and ASBC nominations call via e-mail," according to Patti Holliman, human resources specialist for the 81st Mission Support Squadron's employee management services element. "We send out a memorandum to all training monitors and each group's command section. Nominees learn if they've been selected in September."

Becky Green, education services flight chief, said the education office is the point of contact for employees who aren't able to participate in nonresident PME who are interested in seminars or correspondence courses.



Tuition assistance

Airmen have online access to college financial support

By Staff Sgt.
Julie Weckerlein

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Airmen are only a few mouse clicks away from financial support for their college education, thanks to the tuition assistance feature on the Air Force's virtual education center.

Online since early 2003, the center helps active-duty, Guard and Reserve Airmen pursue their off-duty education from a computer.

"It's a continual process to make (the site) a one-stop shop for an Airman's educational needs," said Kendall McAree, the Air Force's education systems manager at the Pentagon. "We're very excited to be able to now make tuition assistance available online."

Air Force tuition assistance is a quality-of-life program that provides tuition assistance and fees for college courses taken by active-duty Airmen during off-duty hours. It's capped at \$250 per semester hour — \$166 per quarter hour — and is one of the most frequent reasons Airmen give for enlisting and reenlisting in the Air Force, according to the Web site.

Now that all application paperwork is online, Mrs. McAree hopes more Airmen

take advantage of the program.

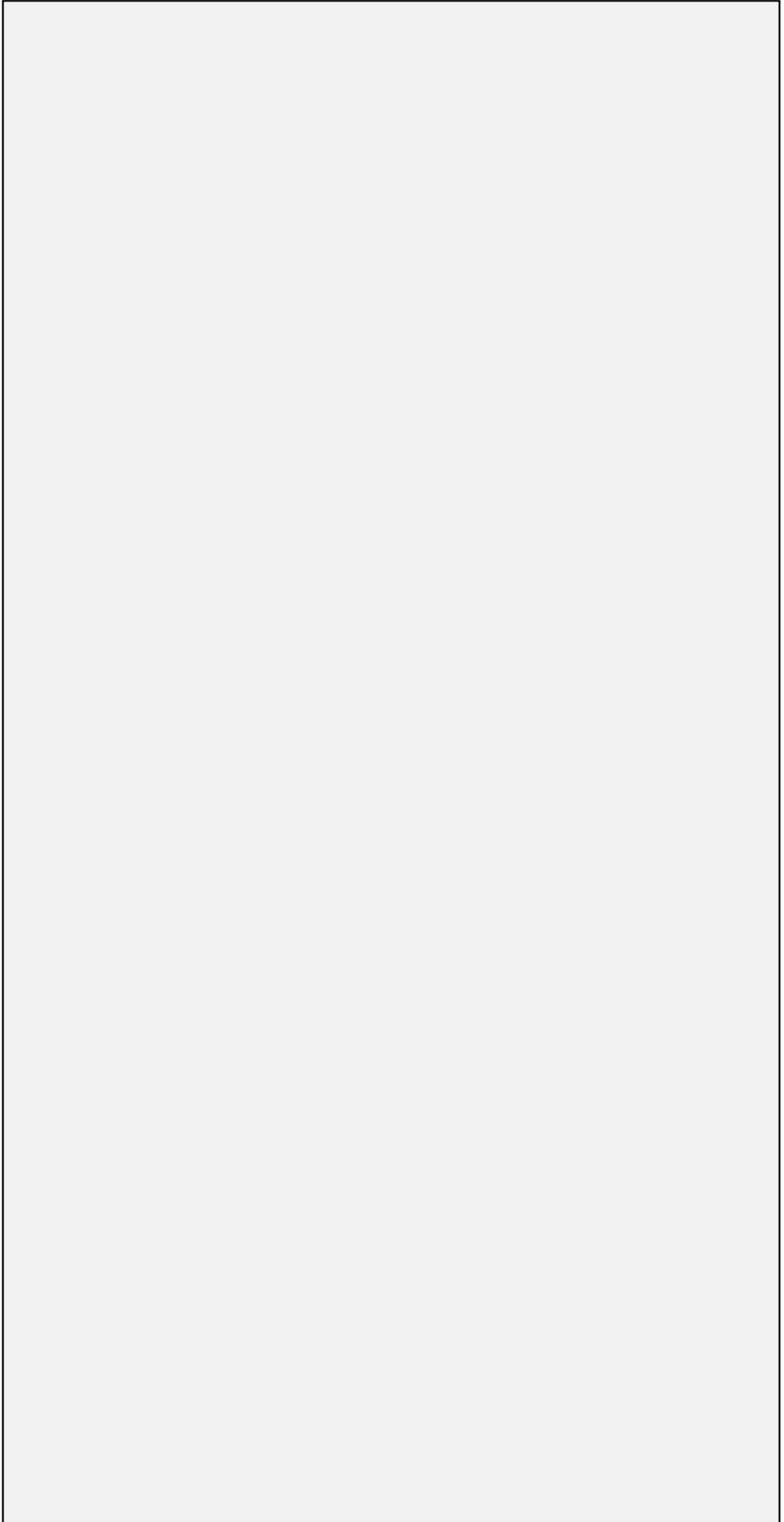
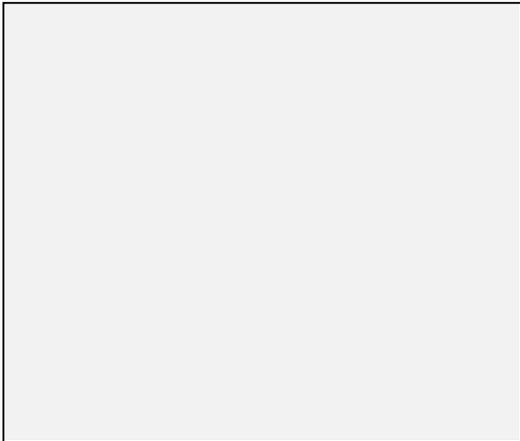
"Airmen can now access the information anywhere at any time, whether they are at home or deployed somewhere," she said. "With the online signature, all the paperwork can be routed through the appropriate channels faster and more efficiently."

That means Airmen don't visit an education center, which is good, "because some Airmen are in places where there are no education centers," she said.

Mrs. McAree said the new online capability also frees up education center workers, who spent a lot of time doing the paperwork involved with tuition assistance. Now they can devote more time to face-to-face counseling and assisting customers, she said.

Along with tuition assistance, Airmen can use the Web site to check their Community College of the Air Force progress, request transcript and civilian course conversion tables, distance learning information, DANTES and CLEP test results and more.

The Air Force Virtual Education Center link is available through the Air Force Portal at <http://www.my.af.mil>.



TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Winter classes

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College-Keesler offers a winter term Monday through Feb. 24.

Web registration is available for currently enrolled students.

Registration is also available by appointment in the office, Room 214, old Cody Hall for active duty.

Students taking English composition I, oral communications or mathematics for the first time are required to have an assessment of skills.

For more information, call 377-2287.

CCAF postponement

Tuesday's Community College of the Air Force graduation is being combined with the spring ceremony.

The postponement is due to the impact of Hurricane Katrina.

For more information, call Becky Green, education office, 377-2323.

Testing resumes

Testing has resumed for all programs administered by the education office.

Make appointments in Room 212, old Cody Hall or call 377-2323 or 2171.

Testing is in Room 118, Airman Leadership School, 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

Tuition aid online

Air Force members can request tuition assistance online.

Members can accomplish this request from their workstation through the Air Force Virtual Education Center.

AFVEC may be accessed through the Web site, <https://afvec.langley.af.mil> or through the Air Force Portal using the portal's reduced sign-on technology. New My AFVEC users are required to create an account.

Upon registration, select the "Request TA" option. A PowerPoint tutorial in this section provides instructions on processing online applications.

It's important to know and enter basic course registration information in the request.

Civilian tuition aid

College tuition assistance is available for permanent civil service employees assigned to Keesler.

Courses must be mission (job) related.

For more information, call or visit the education office, 377-2323, Room 212, old Cody Hall.

Physical therapy class

Applications are accepted through Nov. 25 at the Air Force Personnel Center for the doctor of physical therapy program.

The class begins Dec. 17 at the Health Sciences Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Ravin McCray, 377-9630.

CCAF online

Visit the Air Force Virtual

Education Center, <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>, to create MyAFVEC accounts to access online customer service tools.

With the tools, people can request Community College of the Air Force transcripts, track receipt of civilian transcripts, view degree progress reports and check if a course counts toward a CCAF degree.

Physician assistants

Phase I physician assistant training classes begin in January, April and August 2007.

Completed applications must be sent by military personnel flights and arrive by Jan. 27 at HQ AFPC/DPAMW, 550 C Street West, Suite 27, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4729.

For more information, call the military personnel flight or education office or visit <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/medical/BSC/Education/PAapplication.htm>.

Virtual education

The Air Force Virtual Education Center has been transferred to the Air Force Portal.

To access AFVEC, use the AFVEC URL, <https://afvec.langley.af.mil>, or go directly to the Air Force Portal, <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>. Use your Air Force Portal user identification and password to log on.

First-time users are prompted to re-register some of their profile information and then are taken directly into their AFVEC profile.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Top couple



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Laura and Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander, look on during the 27th annual Salute to the Military Nov. 15. The event was held at the Seabee base due to hurricane damage to the original host facility, the Mississippi Coast Coliseum.

IN THE NEWS

Thanksgiving meals

Keesler commanders, chiefs and first sergeants will serve Thanksgiving meals to Keesler personnel 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday at the Pecan and Azelea Dining Facilities. All meal card holders are eligible to participate.

AFPC force shaping briefings

Calendar 2002 and 2003 line officers were briefed on force shaping Thursday in the Airman Leadership School auditorium by Air Force Personnel Center officials.

For more information, visit the Air Force Personnel Center Force shaping Web site, <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape.htm>, or call the AFPC contact center, 1-800-616-3775.

It pays to be designated driver

AETC News Service and 81st Services Division

Even though dues for Keesler Club members have been suspended indefinitely in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, 81st Services Division officials say it still pays to be a member during the holiday season.

Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Services is once again taking additional steps to ensure AETC club-goers have a safe way home.

The 2005 Holiday Designated Driver "Leave the Driving to Us" program is designed to support existing local designated driver club programs and runs Monday to Jan. 3.

"AETC clubs are the right place to be this holiday season and we want to ensure a safe ride home to our event participants," said Robert Carlberg, AETC Services Programs chief.

AETC club members don't have to make a purchase to obtain an entry form but must be identified as a holiday designated driver according to local operating procedures. They'll receive one entry form every time they are identified as a Holiday Designated Driver "Leave the Driving to Us" participant.

Stop by your club for more information about the 2005 Holiday Designated Driver "Leave the Driving to Us" program.

Last Keesler News of 2005

By contract, the Keesler News doesn't publish the weeks in which the Christmas and New Year's holidays fall.

The last Keesler News of 2005 is published Dec. 22.

The first issue of 2006 is published Jan. 12.

The newspaper office is minimally staffed on work days between Dec. 26-30 and Jan. 2-6.

Keesler nurse earns Bronze Star

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Sept. 11 has evolved into a somber observance for Americans since the terrorist attacks in 2001. But the date took on special significance last year for Keesler's newest recipient of the Bronze Star.

Sept. 11, 2004, Capt. Kevin Polk risked his life to save an injured Airman while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as a critical care air transport team nurse with the 379th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar.

His medal was presented Thursday by Brig. Gen. James Dougherty, 81st Medical Group commander, at Keesler Medical Center, where the captain has been an emergency services nurse for the past six months.

"I was deployed from the end of August 2004 until the end of January 2005," Captain Polk said. "We had been stuck in Kuwait for several days and I had just arrived in Iraq on Monday and flew a mission to Germany on Tuesday. I had only spent two or



Captain Polk

three days in Iraq when the situation occurred."

While forward-deployed to Balad AB, Iraq, the base came under direct mortar attack from enemy insurgents. Captain Polk was exposed to enemy fire while searching the living quarters for potential victims, where he found an Airman with many life-threatening injuries.

He stabilized the Airman's condition as he continued to assist with the medical trans-

port of the Airman to a hospital for emergency surgery.

The Airman sustained permanent disabilities, but Captain Polk's heroic response was credited with saving his life.

The captain served in the Mississippi Air National Guard for eight years and as an inactive reservist for three years before coming on active duty four years ago.

With the Guard's 183rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron in Jackson, Miss., he flew missions into Saudi Arabia during the first Gulf War, helped move patients of the Bosnia conflict out of Germany and participated in missions to Panama.

Captain Polk, a Mississippi native, earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from Delta State University.

His parents, James and Betsy Polk, live in Madison, Miss. His 10-year-old stepdaughter, Ivy, and 3-year-old son, Skyler, live in San Antonio.

The Bronze Star is awarded to military members for heroic or meritorious service, not involving aerial flight, in operations against an enemy.

New staff car



Photo by Kemberly Groue

The new staff car for Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st Training Wing commander is a blue Ford Taurus with a white top.

Medicare,

from Page 1

much or more than a standard Medicare prescription plan.

Unlike many non-Defense Department Medicare beneficiaries, those under Tricare already have what officials call a "robust" pharmacy benefit. It charges no monthly premiums and requires minimal co-payments for drugs received through the Tricare Mail Order Pharmacy and retail network. In addition, there's no cost for prescription drugs received at military treatment facilities, officials said.

The one group of eligible Tricare beneficiaries who may benefit from Medicare Plan D are those with limited incomes and assets, officials said. This includes beneficiaries who qualify for Medicaid.

The Medicare Part D drug plan options vary by location

and beneficiaries living overseas aren't eligible.

The best way for Tricare-Medicare beneficiaries to determine if the new plan is best for them is to evaluate a variety of factors. These include monthly premiums, deductibles, co-payments and drug coverage of several prescription drug plans, including the Tricare pharmacy program, officials said.

To help eligible Tricare beneficiaries make this decision, Tricare and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are providing Medicare Part D educational and enrollment information. This information is available on the Tricare and Medicare Web sites or by calling 1-800-633-4227.

The enrollment period for the new prescription drug coverage plan continues through May 15. After that, eligible beneficiaries have an annual window between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31 to sign up.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Editor's note: This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

Verifying deployment credit

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Airmen not issued contingency, exercise or deployment orders should verify their personnel records include credit for those deployments.

A deployment is any temporary duty away from home station filling a validated combatant or component commander or supported major command requirement for forces in support of a named operation or exercise.

Airmen should ensure they received credit for these kinds of deployments because, in some instances, units have deployed Airmen under Defense Department Form 1610s or NATO travel orders.

However, to receive deployment credit, Air Force Instruction 36-2134, Air Force Duty Status Program, requires CED orders to update temporary duty histories in the Military Personnel Data System.

Airmen can verify their Type 1 TDY deployment history has been updated through their commander's support staff or personnel employment section at their servicing military personnel flight. If an Airman's Type 1 TDY deployment hasn't been updated in their TDY history, a completed travel voucher and at least one of the following source documents are required to receive credit:

Certified CED orders.

Certified non-CED orders.

Approved decoration.

Officer or enlisted performance report.

Finalized letter of evaluation.

A letter of justification from a squadron commander or higher.

All source documents must identify the Airman and state the named operation or exercise supported for the duration of the TDY.

For more information, call the Air Force Personnel Center's field activities office, DSN 665-2671 or commercial 1-210-565-2671.

E-mailing deployed troops

Stars and Stripes features "Messages of Support" to deployed service members from family and friends free of charge.

E-mail no more than 60 words to messages@estripes.com.

Mailing care packages

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency process mail for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. A letter takes seven to 14 days and a package 14-24 days.

For more information, call 1-800-275-8777 or visit <http://www.usps.com>.

Civilian employment information

Air Force Personnel Center

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Civilian appropriated fund employees and prospective applicants can get answers to questions about employment opportunities, benefits and entitlements online at the Air Force's Customer Service Center.

A database at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cst> includes hundreds of questions and answers. For online inquiries, users who don't find an answer to their specific question can submit a query through the "Ask-A-Question" tab at the top of the page.

People who need to speak to someone directly about their employment opportunities or benefits, call 1-800-616-3775.

Post-Katrina: Some medical services available

The status of medical services as the recovery from Hurricane Katrina continues:

The family practice clinic has converted to an appointment-based system. The appointment line, 377-8819, opens at 5:30 a.m. for active duty and 7 a.m. for retirees and dependents. The line is open until 5 p.m. Clinic hours are 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday in Pods C and E at the dental clinic. The staff sees acute uncomplicated illnesses, handles personal health assessments and provides medication refills. A case management and social worker are also available in the clinic. Urgicare and walk-in services aren't available.

Medical records are available in the Wylie Auditorium at the medical center.

Flu vaccine is available. Flu shots are given to active-duty military first, followed by people at higher risk, such as the elderly and those with chronic diseases, followed by everybody else as long as vaccine remains. Well-baby immunizations are also available.

The first aid station, 377-0500, is on the west side of the hospital on the ground level. The 911 line is operational. The first aid station serves active-duty military and their dependents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. True emergencies are transported off base by ambulance. Emergency services aren't available in the first aid station. Endocrine and dermatology services are available to walk-ins in the fast-track hallway.

The Triangle clinic, 377-1008, is in the Levitow Training Support Facility. Only non-prior service students are seen for acute and urgent care.

Internal medicine, 377-4630 and 4590, is in the dental clinic's Pod D. The clinic sees active duty, dependents and Tricare Prime enrollees. Services provided are walk-in acute medical care, limited evaluation and treatment of chronic medical illnesses, medical consultation and referral for select subspecialty services.

Endocrine and dermatology services are available on a walk-in basis in the fast-track hallway of the first aid station.

Pediatrics, 377-5296 and 6543, is in Pods G and H for Tricare Prime enrollees under age 18. The staff provides walk-in acute medical care, well-baby visits, Q-code exams and exceptional

family member program/special needs identification. Allergy services aren't available yet.

The immunization clinic, in the dental clinic, offers well-baby immunizations.

The flight surgeon office, 377-6668, is in dental clinic Pod I and treats active-duty flyers and their dependents. They furnish walk-in acute medical care, duties-not-involved-in-flying paperwork, profiles and PHAs. Optometry services are available on a walk-in basis.

Mental health, life skills, family advocacy, including EFMP, and alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment services are available in dental clinic Pod A to serve active-duty and Prime enrollees with urgent care behavioral interventions. Phone numbers are 377-7006 and 6216.

Surgical services, 377-6495, are available only for consultations. The office is on the west side of the medical center on the ground floor next to the first aid station. Since Keesler has no operating room capability, urgent surgical requirements are being referred off base.

The women's health clinic, 377-6920, is on the west side of the medical center on the ground floor next to the first aid station for routine women's health care. Dysplasia patients are contacted by letter for referral off-base as needed for follow-up.

Dental services, 377-4510, at the dental clinic include routine care and cleanings for active-duty members only. Dental emergency care is provided for active-duty members, dependents and retirees. Services include radiology, laboratory and education and training.

Radiology, 377-9821, provides chest and extremity films in the dental clinic and first aid station and ultrasound at the first-aid station.

The lab has staff in the clinical research laboratory and the fast track corridor in the first aid station. The laboratory provides routine chemistries, blood work, Pap smears and cultures.

Karon Forney, director of customer relations, is in Suite J, Room 68 of the dental clinic. The phone number 377-1660.

Life support classes are in the bioenvironmental engineering building. Patients requiring advanced cardiac and advanced pediatric life support are sent off-base for recertification.

Tricare at Keesler

Blanket referrals end

For some Hurricane Rita and all Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma-affected enrollees, Tricare's temporary authorization for blanket referrals ends Wednesday, Dec. 1, those affected by the authorized blanket referral are required to obtain a referral/authorization from their primary care manager before seeking care outside of a military treatment facility or with a non-network and network provider.

Assistance locations

Carolyn James, beneficiary counseling assistance coordinator, and **Ann Larkin**, Humana beneficiary services representative, Room 69J, dental clinic, or call 377-6580, or cellphone 1-228-596-5931.

Pat Poling, medical and dental registration and eligibility, front desk, dental clinic.

Linda Davis, beneficiary counseling assistance coordinator, clinical research laboratory, 377-3150.

Civilian PCMs

Beneficiaries with civilian primary care managers in Louisiana east of the Mississippi River, south Mississippi and southwestern Alabama need referrals.

Pharmacy

Patients in the immediate area call the Keesler pharmacy's automated prescription refill system, 377-6360.

Other Mississippi patients, call 1-800-443-6564.

From Alabama, Florida and Louisiana, call 1-800-422-9291.

Refills are sent from Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, to the Keesler pharmacy at the Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center for pickup at Building 5. Enter the VA grounds on Veterans Avenue. Continue through the three-way stop. Building 5 is on right.

Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Allow four days from activation to pickup.

Present current, valid military identification. Written authorization required to pick up prescriptions for others.

For more information

Keesler Tricare questions — 377-3150 or 6580.

Humana Tricare questions — 1-800-444-5445.

Post-Katrina assistance

Safe haven per diem extended through Saturday

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

An extension has been approved to the safe haven per diem rates payable to uniformed members' dependents through Nov. 26, or 90 days, according to Maj. Richard Fogg, 81st Comptroller Squadron commander.

"We're pursuing an additional extension," the major added.

Reimbursement for lodging is limited to the actual cost of lodging not to exceed the authorized amount; receipts are required. Receipts aren't required for the meals and incidental expense that's reimbursed as a flat amount.

American Red Cross

Any permanent party resident living in the Hurricane Katrina disaster area and not receiving subsistence-in-kind is entitled to a Hurricane Katrina check voucher. To verify eligibility and determine entitlement amounts, call 1-800-975-7585.

Air Force Aid Society

Hurricane Katrina assistance requests are accepted at the family support center, Room 118, old Cody Hall.

Air Force active-duty members, retirees, widows of Air Force retirees, and Army retirees and their widows are required to complete the entire application and provide supporting documentation.

Checks are written to the person or company providing the repair or service. Hurricane-related requests are decided on a case-by-case basis, and the customer is asked to provide supporting documentation, such as written estimates for tree removal, home repairs and proof of insurance deductibles.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Jeffrey Cartier, 377-2593.

AAFES

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is waiving interest and suspending

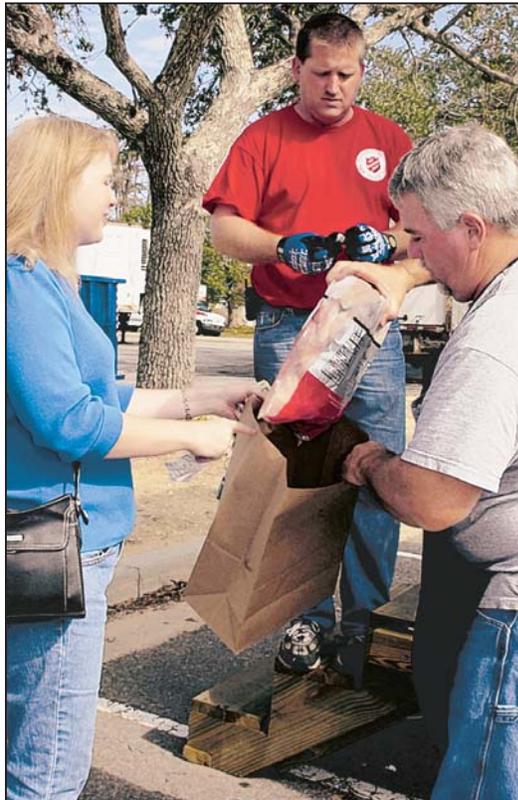


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Susan Warr receives a free chicken Nov. 15 from Salvation Army volunteer John Lowe and Keesler Commissary employee Don Cauthen. Her husband is Master Sgt. Ronald Warr, 2nd Air Force. All shoppers had to do was show a receipt after making their commissary purchases to claim one of the birds, which were donated to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

monthly payments for an unspecified period to Exchange Credit Program cardholders displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Credit limit increases of up to \$500 are offered on accounts in good standing.

For more information or to update contact information, call 1-877-991-7827 or visit <http://www.aafes.com>.

BAH

Base housing residents who received basic assistance

for housing after Hurricane Katrina and have returned to a habitable unit need to stop by the base housing office to stop their BAH.

Residents should check their leave and earnings statements to verify they aren't receiving BAH anymore. About 150 people may still be receiving BAH who shouldn't.

The housing office is located at Chapel One east of the dental clinic.

Bus transportation

Coast Transit Authority is offering free transportation on the following fixed routes.

Pascagoula-Gautier Route 80 runs 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays. For more information, call 875-8070.

Pass Christian, Long Beach, Gulfport, Biloxi, D'Iberville and Ocean Springs routes run 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. For more information call 896-8080.

Specialized medical transportation is also available on this route at the same times and days. For more information, call 896-4010.

Civilian assistance

The Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund Emergency Assistance Program may provide assistance to federal civilian employees affected by Hurricane Katrina.

For more information, call all Sheila Noel, 377-7973, or go to <http://www.feea.org/emergency.shtml>.

Civilian employees and their families are eligible for six free post-hurricane counseling sessions.

For more information, call Larry Williams, 377-4638.

Civilian employees may also donate unused annual leave to other employees adversely affected by the hurricane.

Up to 104 hours of leave can be donated, but it can't be given to a specific person. Submit an Office of Personnel Management Form 1638 through the civilian personnel flight.

Diploma replacement

Students who want to replace diplomas from the Community College of the Air Force or professional military education lost or damaged due to the hurricane, call the education office, 377-2171.

Extended child care

Military and civilians affected who are eligible for on-base day care and work more than 50 hours a week are eligible for free or subsidized child care under the Air Force's extended duty child care program.

For more information, call 377-3189 or 5935.

FEMA

Homeowners, renters and businesses in the areas can apply for federal assistance by registering online with the Federal Emergency Management Agency at <http://www.fema.gov>, or by calling 1-800-621-3362, or 1-800-462-7585 for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free numbers are available 24/7.

Food stamps

The disaster food stamp program and supplemental benefits have been extended for November for Harrison and Hancock counties.

For more information, visit <http://www.fns.usda.gov/isp/>.

Government travel card

The government travel card, for official travel expenses while in a travel status, isn't authorized for use at Keesler.

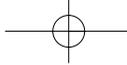
Personnel who lost their card during the storm must report the loss and request a new card immediately.

Dependents aren't authorized to use their members' card. They can get advances at the nearest base to the "safe haven" location. If there's no base nearby, work through the finance office at Keesler for advances or accruals.

The 90-day grace period for payment of government travel card accounts began Sept. 23.

People who used government travel cards for prepaid transactions that weren't used as a result of Hurricane Katrina can dispute the charge for credit. Before filing a dispute, try to contact the merchant to see if charges can be credited to the account. If that isn't possible, submit the dispute form found at <https://www.gcsuthd.bankofamerica.com/forms/maintenance.asp>. Use reason code 10 for "other" and use your own

Please see **Assistance**, Page 13



Assistance, from Page 12

words to reference Hurricane Katrina. To fax the form, call 1-888-678-6046.

Income tax relief

The Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 postpones deadlines for affected taxpayers to file tax returns, pay taxes and perform other time-sensitive acts until Feb. 28.

Taxpayers who need to identify themselves as hurricane victims should write "Hurricane Katrina" in red ink at the top of their tax forms or any other documents filed with the Internal Revenue Service.

Deadline postponement, interest suspension and waiver of penalties apply to any tax return, payment or deposit with an original or extended due date falling on or after Aug. 29.

To take advantage of the act's benefits, taxpayers must file itemized returns.

For more information, call the IRS, 1-866-562-5227 or

visit the agency's Web site, <http://www.irs.gov>.

Katrina relief fund

Keesler's Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund is a central location for funds donated from a variety of sources for Keesler military members and civilians who suffered losses during the storm.

To apply, visit the Keesler secure Web site, <https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil> and click on the red Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund icon on the right side of the screen. The brief application asks for personal contact information, rank, unit and an assessment of personal loss and insurance coverage.

All military and civilian members should complete the form, whether they want to receive financial donations or not," because responses will be used as historical data to determine the actual number of Keesler people who had losses and the extent of their losses.

For more information, call Maj. Teresa Roberts or Master Sgt. Jeffrey Cartier at the family support center, 377-2179.

Keesler Attic

The family support center's Keesler Attic has a bulletin board to advertise donated furniture for use by active duty victims of Hurricane Katrina.

E-mail a description of items to be donated and a digital picture if possible. Include your name, phone number and contact information.

The information is posted in the attic, located in Chapel One, east of the dental clinic.

For more information, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592 or 228-860-8681.

OneSource

Air Force OneSource offers 24/7 support and advice on how to tap into resources available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Air Force Aid Society and American Red Cross. Call 1-800-707-5784 or visit <http://www.airforceone.com>. Use "airforce" as user ID and "ready" as password.

Retirees, annuitants

Military retirees and annuitants who've relocated or

changed banking information, call 1-800-321-1080, 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekdays. They can also use myPay to update information; call 1-800-390-2348. Changes to mailing and banking information can be sent by fax to 1-800-469-6559, with "Hurricane Katrina" at the top of the page and a contact phone number listed.

SBA

The Small Business Administration is the primary source of long-term recovery assistance for homeowners, renters, non-farm businesses of all sizes and private non-profit organizations that received hurricane damage. The SBA offers loans of up to \$200,000 to repair disaster-damaged primary residences. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to replace personal property such as furniture and clothing.

The SBA recommends not waiting to settle with your insurance company before applying for disaster loan assistance.

For more information, call 1-800-659-2955, email questions

to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visit the Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/disaster>.

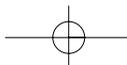
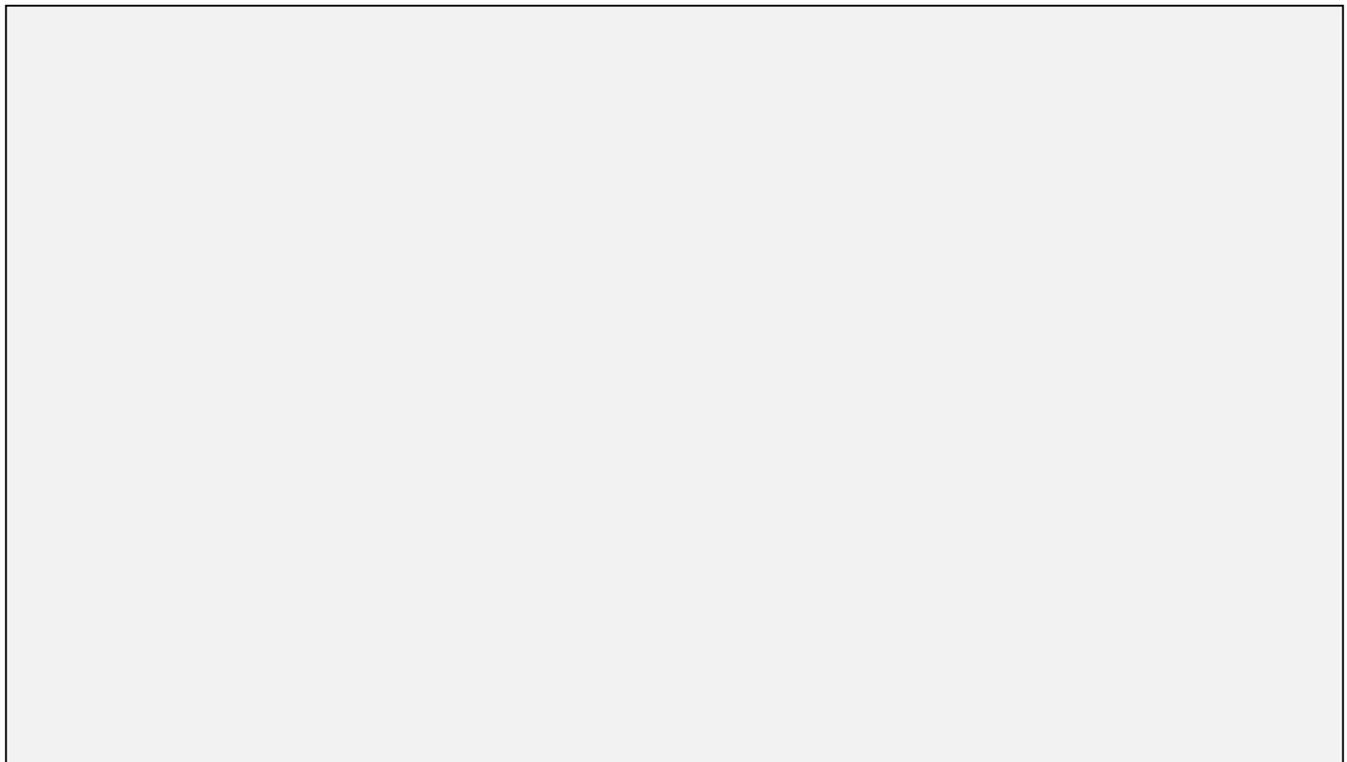
SGLI

The Defense Department extended the deadline for reducing or declining increased Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage for service members affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Maximum SGLI coverage increased to \$400,000 on Sept. 1. On that date, members eligible for SGLI were automatically insured for the maximum coverage of \$400,000.

These changes don't affect coverage under Family SGLI, which continues under previously existing elections.

Those who wish to keep the \$400,000 coverage with the same beneficiary designations as before Sept. 1 don't need to take any action. If members wish to again decline or reduce the coverage, they must complete a new SGLV 8286 — September 2005 version — at <http://www.insurance.va.gov> indicating the amount of coverage desired.



Base facilities update

Thrifty shoppers have one less place to browse

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler shoppers anxious to get the most bang for their buck have one less place to search for bargains for the foreseeable future.

The Keesler Thrift Shop, swamped by Hurricane Katrina's flood waters, is closed until further notice, said Cathy Miceli, spokesperson for the Keesler Officers Spouses Club, operator of the facility.

Not only did the thrift shop help Keesler families stretch their budgets, it was a major source of funds for annual KOOSC scholarships and a social outlet for many active-duty and retiree spouses.

"At this time, the building is scheduled for demolition," said Mrs. Miceli, spouse of Lt. Col. Christopher Miceli, 45th Airlift Squadron commander. "As soon as a new building is assigned, our volunteers are ready to get back to business."

Volunteer Pam Hoebeke, spouse of retired Army Col. Gary Hoebeke, said both customers and club members are anxious to get the shop up and running again.

"One of our customers commented, 'The thrift shop may not be mission essential, but it's community essential.'" Mrs. Hoebeke said. "I think that's a good way to sum it up."

Consignment checks were mailed in August, and critical items that could be salvaged are being stored.

To contact the shop, send mail to P.O. Box 5218, Biloxi, MS 39534.

These base facilities are open:

81st Services Division

Arts and crafts, frame and engraving shops — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Auto skills center — 1-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and non-working Fridays. The car wash is open 24 hours a day.

Child development center — 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Space is available at the center and for the preschool program. For more information, call 377-2211.

Family child care — five providers are currently accepting children in their homes. Children are also being accepted at the mildly-ill family child care home.

For more information, call 377-3189.

People interested in becoming licensed family child care providers, call the family child care office, 377-5935, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Inns of Keesler — open 24 hours.

McBride Library — 10 a.m. to 8



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Thrift shop volunteers Pam Hoebeke, left, and Jeanette Jackson sift through the store's water-damaged inventory for salvageable items. Mrs. Hoebeke's husband is retired Army Col. Gary Hoebeke. Mrs. Jackson is married to Col. Wayne Jackson, 81st Medical Support Squadron.

p.m. Monday-Thursday and noon to 7 p.m. Friday-Sunday. Fax service and copy machine available for a nominal fee; videos and DVD movies, and free Internet service are available.

Half Time Café — 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Information, ticket and travel office — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays-working Fridays in the customer service area of Vandenberg Community Center.

Vandenberg Community Center — open for senior airmen and below 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday.

Wood shop — 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and non-working Fridays. Planers and drum sanders aren't available at this time.

Youth activities center — 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. workdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Before- and after-school program is 6-8:30 a.m. and 3:30-6 p.m. for children in kindergarten through grade 6.

Dining facilities — Magnolia Dining Facility, closed for critical maintenance, is expected to reopen in time for Thursday's Thanksgiving feast, according to food services director Glenn Jones.

If there's a delay in completing the work, Azalea Dining Facility is open for the holiday meal

Until further notice, lunch meals in all dining facilities are provided only to military personnel with meal cards, at Keesler on temporary duty orders and those normally authorized to eat in these facilities.

Civilians, other than those displaced as a result of Hurricane Katrina, aren't authorized to use the dining facilities during the lunch meal.

Azalea Dining Facility serves only non-prior service students for all meals.

Bay Breeze Golf Course, Triangle Fitness Center, the marina, Keesler Club, Warrior Lounge and Keesler Community Center are closed.

AAFES

Car care center — 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Service bays close at 3:30 p.m.

For more information, call 432-2404.

Home furnishings store — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at 220 Ploesti Drive with an entrance on Hercules Street.

Welch Auditorium — movies shown 7 p.m. Friday; 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday.

Class Six/Shoppette — is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays as a one-stop holiday shop, with toys, clothing, decorations and gift items.

The main exchange, dorm shoppette and medical center exchange are closed indefinitely.

Banking

BancorpSouth — base branch open for limited service, 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Friday. Drive-up and mini-mall automatic teller machines are operational. Safe deposit box access available, as well as teller window services, but no customer service desk or account opening.

Keesler Federal Credit Union — open for limited service, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Base branch is operating in an off-line mode, but can handle cash withdrawals or checks up to \$400 per person per day. New accounts can be opened for base personnel and temporary tenants such as the Red Cross. After hours of operation walk-up and drive-up ATMS are available.

Gates

Oak Park Gate is open 5:30-7:30 a.m. and 3:30-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday to help alleviate traffic due to the closure of Highway 90. Pass Road, White Avenue and Meadows Drive gates are open around the clock. Judge Sekul Gate is closed.

Housing

The housing office in Chapel One is reassigning homes to families whose base housing is uninhabitable. For a list of available off-base housing, call Mary Krystosek, 377-9741.

The office is the focal point for military housing residents to request portable storage units or labor assistance.

Mini-mall

Alteration shop — noon to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

At Ease embroidery/unit apparel — noon to 7 p.m. daily.

Barber shop — 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Beauty shop — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

CZee Zone Internet Café — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Dawg Daze hot dog cart — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Laundry and dry cleaners — noon to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Military clothing sales — 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Seattle's Best Coffee — 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. daily in the mini-mall.

Subway — 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Moves

Area Defense Counsel — Keesler's office is now in Room 5703,

Please see **Facilities**, Page 15

Cooking fires pose threat

Fire prevention office

Home fires on Thanksgiving cause more property damage and claim more lives than any other day of the year.

Unattended cooking is the main cause, along with the improper use of turkey fryers.

For a safe holiday meal: **Have** a working fire extinguisher and be familiar with its location and proper operation.

Keep lids to pots and pans nearby. If there's a pan fire, turn off the heat and slide the lid over to smother the fire. If there's a fire in the oven or microwave, turn off the heat or power source

and keep the door closed.

Don't use water to extinguish a grease fire.

Never leave fryers unattended and monitor the temperature to avoid a boilover.

Never use a fryer underneath overhangs, carports or within 10 feet of the house. Keep the propane tank as far away from the burner as possible.

Dial 911 in case of fire of any size. Get everyone out of the house and call 911 from a safe location. Give the dispatcher as much information as you can and wait for the fire department's arrival.

Toasty toes



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Cam Tran gets help from Airman 1st Class Alejandro Gomez, 335th Training Squadron, in matching up socks for herself and her 2-year-old daughter, Emmy Tieu. Airman Gomez was among the Keesler volunteers helping to organize clothing donations for Hurricane Katrina victims at the Biloxi Community Center distribution site Nov. 16.

Facilities,

from Page 14

Locker House. The office, an independent office of the Air Force Legal Services Agency, provides representation for investigations, administrative actions and discharges, nonjudicial punishment, courts-martial and other adverse actions. For appointments, call 377-2429.

Contracting — now located in Room 101, old Cody Hall.

Education office — now located in Room 212, old Cody Hall. For assistance, call 377-2323 or 2171.

Family support center — now located on the first floor, old Cody Hall. A student office remains open in the Fishbowl.

In Chapel One, there's an annex with supplies for all ranks and base civilians including clothes, food, baby items and cleaning supplies. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. working Fridays.

Finance — now located on the second floor, Vosler

Center. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. working Fridays. For military and travel pay questions, call 377-7272 or 4212.

Legal office — aid is available 9 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. workdays in Room 246, Levitow Training Support Facility. A claims briefing is 10 a.m. daily, with filing from 8 a.m. to noon. For appointments, call 377- 3510. For Katrina claims, call 377-3630. The fax number is 377-3630.

Personal finances — The personal financial management program is now located in Room 119, old Cody Hall. For more information, call 377-8601 or 2179.

Personnel offices — now located in Room 218, old Cody Hall. The civilian personnel office has relocated to the Airman Leadership School building.

Retirees, annuitants — the retiree activities center has moved from Thrower Park to Room 104, old Cody Hall.

Traffic management office — TMO for technical training students in Room 211, Levitow Training Support Facility, is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more

information, call 377- 0174, 1263, 7448 or 3147.

The main TMO has returned to Sablich Center, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Phone numbers are inbound personal property, 377-7813; outbound counselors, 377-7815; outbound documentation, 377-2326; non-temporary storage, 377-7810; quality assurance, 377-2969; passenger travel, 377-2600; N&N Travel, 432-5825; TMO officer and administrative staff, 377-7825.

Pets

Veterinary clinic — open 8 a.m. to noon Mondays-Fridays for over-the-counter sales. For appointments to have pets vaccinated or for sick pets, call 377-6883.

Self-help store

The self-help store is open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday for facility managers, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for housing residents and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays. For more information, call 377-5397.

Child care requires licensing

By Earlene Smith

81st Services Division

People living in base housing who care for children in their homes could be breaking the rules.

Air Force Regulation 34.276, which governs day care in on-base quarters, states "any individuals caring for children more than 10 hours a week on a regular basis must get approval."

It states that the "installation commander may revoke the housing privileges of individuals who provide child care but refuse to become licensed or who continue to provide care after their license has been suspended or revoked."

The regulation applies whether or not caregivers are compensated for their services.

"People living in base housing who regularly care for children without being licensed may be unaware of the regulation," said Mary Allgood, family child care program coordinator.

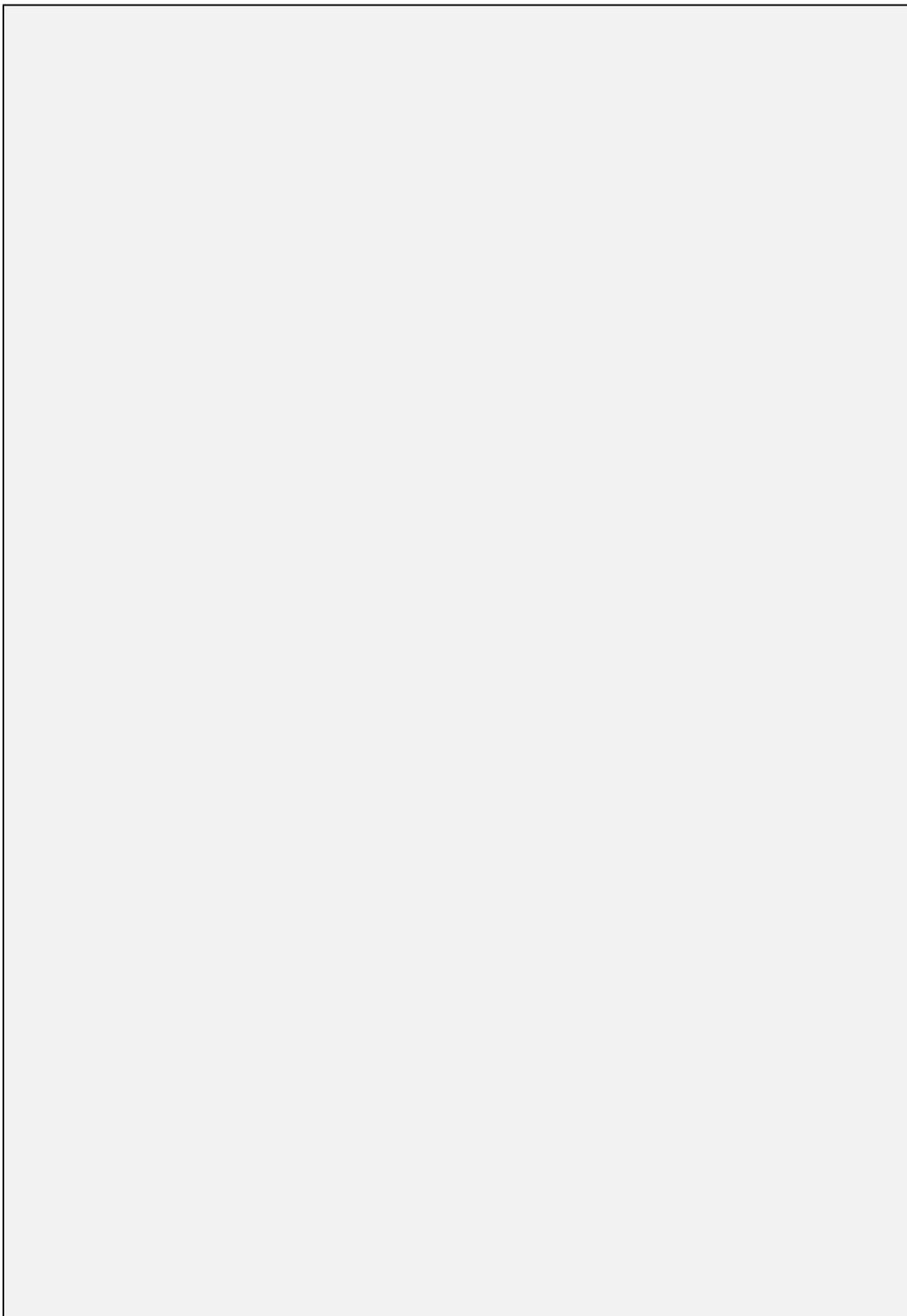
Licenses are granted by the 81st Support Group commander, usually within 30 days of completion of initial family child care provider training, background screenings and home inspections.

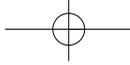
Training includes child guidance, play environments, nutrition, ages and stages of development, child abuse and neglect, recordkeeping, business management, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid.

"Family child care providers are professionals trained to give the best possible care to the children left in their charge," said Ms. Allgood.

Once licensed, providers may care for children from 2 weeks through 12 years old. They're assisted by the FCC staff in setting up their home and have access to an extensive library for toys, equipment and materials to keep costs down. They set up their own hours of operation and fee structure.

For more information, call 377-3189, 5934 or 5935, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.





Flexible spending accounts: Underused good deal?

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — It may be the most underused good deal in the government.

Less than 5 percent of eligible Department of Defense civilians have enrolled to use flexible-spending accounts.

The benefit, also known as FSAFEDS, allows federal employees to set aside pre-tax money for a wide range of medical and dependent-care expenses.

The FSAFEDS open season runs through Dec. 12. About 700,000 DOD civilians are eligible for the program. Right now there are 33,561 defense employees enrolled, officials said.

Taking the money off the

top means the government calculates a person's taxes at a lower level, said Chris Ryan, vice president for marketing with SHPS, the firm that administers the federal program.

Essentially, federal employees in the program reserve a tax-free portion of their salaries to pay out-of-pocket medical or dependent-care expenses.

There are two types of flexible-spending accounts.

The Health Care FSA allows employees to pay for medical expenses not covered by insurance. For example, most insurance programs have co-pays. That money can be reimbursed via the flexible-

spending account. The FSA can also reimburse for prescriptions, glasses or eye care, dental procedures, orthodontia, medical screening tests, and even nonprescription over-the-counter medicines.

The second account is for dependent care. This reimburses employees for expenses incurred for child care or elder care.

The money put into accounts is exempt from federal income taxes, Social Security taxes and Medicare taxes. FSAs are also exempt from most state and local taxes, with the notable exceptions being New Jersey and Puerto Rico. Pennsylvania taxes the portion placed in dependent

care FSAs. The money won't show up on yearly W-2 forms.

Few federal employees have participated in the program. One reason could be a fear of losing unused funds. If users overestimate expenses and money is left in the account at the end of the effective period, that money is lost. For the 2006 plan, the effective period runs from Jan. 1, 2006, to March 15, 2007.

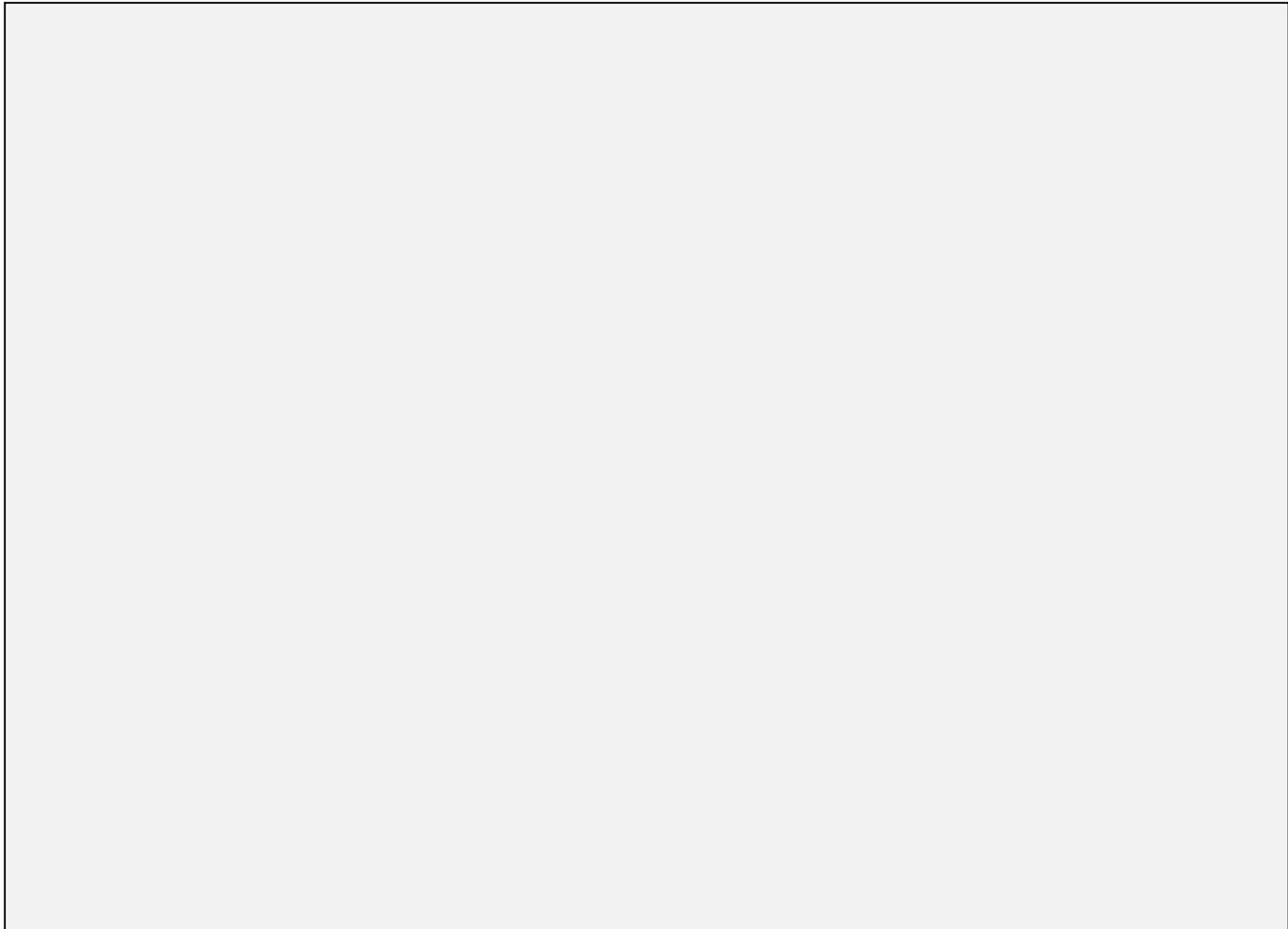
If a participant elects to put \$2,000 in an FSA medical account and only uses \$1,700, the individual loses the extra \$300.

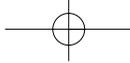
The possibility of losing the money is one reason employees must sign up for the program each year.

There are significant changes in the program this year from the past. Employees can elect to pay \$5,000 into the accounts, up from \$4,000, and can file claims against the new year's account through May 31, 2007.

The process for filing for reimbursement is relatively simple. Participants must keep receipts for eligible expenses and send them to SHPS with a claim form. SHPS personnel process the forms in the order they arrive and pay the money directly into bank accounts within a week.

For more information, go to <http://www.fsafeds.com> or call toll-free 1-877- 372-3337.





OPERATION SLUGFEST

**\$1,000 CASH PRIZE
IN EACH
DIVISION!**

7 p.m. Dec. 9 ~ Hangar 4

24 fighters ~ last man standing is "King of the Ring!"

Amateur boxing sanctioned by the Mississippi State Athletic Commission
3 weight divisions, 8 fighters in each division ~ For participation information, call 377-1597 (some restrictions apply)
Entertainment between rounds. Food and beverages available.

Discounted tickets available at Vandenberg Community Center and Gaudé Lanes
for military and Defense Department civilian equivalent.

\$15 for E-5 and above; limited number of **\$10** tickets available for E-4 and below (when they're gone, price is \$15)
~ Presented by Bomber Promotions ~

Christmas in the Park Dec. 8 in marina park

- 4-4:45 p.m. ~ rides for the children (Dare Train or hay ride around park)
- 4:45-5 p.m. ~ Christmas caroling for all
- 5-5:30 p.m. ~ Christmas tree lighting
- 5:30-5:45 ~ Santa arrives on fire truck
- 5:45-until ~ visit with Santa and refreshments

Sponsored by outdoor recreation;
for more information, call 377-3160.

Handmade Christmas Crafts

Get in the spirit of the season
and do some holiday shopping too.

Sponsored by the
arts and crafts center

To sign up for a craft booth
and for more information,
call 377-2821.

**Sponsored by
The Home Depot**



Although dues for Keesler Club members
have been suspended indefinitely,
it still pays to be a member.

2005 Holiday Designated Driver Program

"Leave the Driving to Us"

could give a Keesler Club member
an Armed Forces Vacation Club certificate.

Through Jan. 3, current Air Education and Training Command
club members in good standing receive an entry form from man-
agement each time they visit the Katrina Kantina, Vandenberg
Community Center, Half Time Café or Gaudé Lanes and are iden-
tified as a Holiday Designated Driver "Leave the Driving to Us"
participant.

The grand prize is a voucher for a one-week stay at a resort loca-
tion of the winner's choice through the Armed Forces Vacation
Club. AFVC space-available vouchers allow active-duty and
retired military and Defense Department civilians to stay in select-
ed upscale resort condominiums. For more information about
AFVC log on to <http://www.afvclub.com>.

Keesler's winner is selected in a drawing Jan. 3.

No purchase required —
sponsored by AETC Air Force Services Clubs

Club membership still has its privileges.

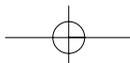
December 2005

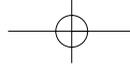


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McBride Library closed Dec. 1-15 for construction and renovation.





ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2821.

Wood hobby shop — 1-7 p.m. Tuesdays-working Fridays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. nonworking Fridays and Saturdays. The planer and drum sander are currently unavailable for use.

Engraving and frame shops — full service available 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Look for signs directing you to temporary entrances.

Mini crafts center — now open at Vandenberg Community Center. Various craft projects are available for a nominal fee. Finish project with each visit; pottery, ceramics, macrame, scrap-booking and more. Hours 4-8 p.m. Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. nonworking Fridays, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays after working Fridays. Enter the "name the shop" contest.

Youth gift camp — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dec. 3, ages 8 and older. \$20, including all supplies and lunch. Make three projects perfect for holiday gifts.

AUTO CARE

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3872.

Auto skills shop — stalls, tools and mechanic support available.

24-hour coin-operated car wash — features foamy brush wash, high pressure rinse, wax system, towellettes and Armorall, and vacuum station.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2211.

Slots available — at the child development center. Morning and afternoon spaces also available for the preschool program for ages 3-5.

FAMILY CHILD CARE

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3189 or 377-5935 Mondays-Fridays, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Be your own boss — we're recruiting military spouses on and off base who want to care for children in their homes. Providers are also needed to care for children with special needs including asthma, allergies, cerebral palsy and physical impairments; and to work swing and evening shifts.

Providers pre-training orientation — 4 p.m. Mondays at the family child care office, Building J0043, Thrower Park.

Extended duty child care and mildly ill child care — providers are available.

FITNESS CENTERS

Blake Fitness Center — exercise equipment, weight room, basketball court, racquetball courts, shower facilities and sauna. For more information, call 377-4385.

Dragon Fitness Center — open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Basketball court is currently unavailable. For more information, call 377-2907.

GAUDÉ LANES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2817.

League sign-ups — start in December for all leagues. Mondays federal league, five bowlers per team; Wednesday mixed league, four bowlers per team; Thursday seniors, four bowlers per team; women's league continues Thursdays. Hospital and Veterans Affairs Employee Association leagues, Tuesdays, contact your respective league secretaries. Thursday Intramural League meeting 1:30 p.m. Dec. 15. Young American Bowling Alliance sign-up Jan. 7.

New Year's Eve party — 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dec. 31; call for more information.

11th Frame Café — open 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays for lunch; no bowling. Menu includes sub sandwiches, hot dogs, Polish sausage, barbecue and buffalo wings, nachos, chef and potato salads, soup, chili, coleslaw, chips, and miscellaneous drinks; dine in or carry out. Same menu available 5-9:30 p.m. Mondays-Fridays and 3-9:30 p.m. Saturdays and 3-7 p.m. Sundays.

HALF TIME CAFÉ

Editor's note: Located inside Vandenberg Community Center.

Open for lunch and dinner — pizza, wings, burgers, Philly steak sandwiches and more. Dine in or take out, 377-2424.

EMPLOYMENT

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-9032.

Nonappropriated fund jobs — apply noon to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and noon to 4 p.m. work Fridays in the human resource office, Room 5417, Locker House, 505 C St., Building 3101. Employment information pamphlet and complete job listings available.

INFORMATION, TICKETS AND TRAVEL

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3818.

Relocated — inside Vandenberg Community Center. Open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays-work Fridays with limited service.

KATRINA KANTINA

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2719.

E-5s and above — snacks, beverages and music. Open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays in the main marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay.

MUSE MANOR MINI-MART

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2752.

Convenience store — snacks, cold drinks, health and hygiene products. Open 7 a.m. to midnight daily. After hours, see front desk for service. For more information, call 377-2752.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3160.

New location — in the enclosed pavilion in marina park. Camping, fishing and recreational equipment rental; recreational vehicle and dry storage available. For more information, call 377-3160.

Fam camp — available for mission-essential active-duty, civilian and contractors, and nonmission essential active-duty who've been displaced. For more information, call 594-0543.

VANDBERG COMMUNITY CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-3308.

E-4s and below — shoot some pool, play some amusement games or try Cybersports. Weekends feature music and dancing .6 p.m. to midnight.

Dorm World returns — free fun, food, games and prizes for permanent party dorm residents. Call for information.

VETERINARY SERVICES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-6887.

Limited hours and services — 8 a.m. to noon Mondays-Fridays for over-the-counter sales.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES CENTER

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-4116.

Holiday hoops basketball — registrations accepted Dec. 1-14, ages 6-12. Members \$25, nonmembers \$35.

Open recreation — Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., ages 6 and older.

Torch Club — 5 p.m. Dec. 1, 8 and 15, ages 9-12.

TRAIL Keystone teen meeting — 6 p.m. Dec. 6, 13 and 20, ages 13-17.

Wacky Wednesdays — 6 p.m. Dec. 7 and 14. Various board and table game tournaments.

Christmas party — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 10. For more information, call 377-3349.

Christmas bazaar — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 17. Craft items and "can't live without them" items on sale. Refreshments served. Hosted by the school age program youth.

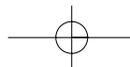
Holiday camp — 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 19-23 for children in kindergarten through grade 6. Registration deadline Dec. 15.

Santa calling — have your child receive a personal call from Santa, Dec. 20-23. Register by Dec. 16.

HAPPENINGS is a monthly supplement to the Keesler News and is produced by the 81st Services Division. Information is subject to change without notice. No federal endorsement of sponsors or sports promoters intended.

Earlene Smith, publicist; Cindy Milford, illustrator; Tom Golden, commercial sponsorship coordinator.

PLEASE PULL OUT AND KEEP THIS SUPPLEMENT AS A HANDY REFERENCE FOR MONTHLY EVENTS OF THE 81ST SERVICES DIVISION.



Coming soon: Switch from cooling to heating

81st Civil Engineer Squadron

The 81st Civil Engineer Squadron is preparing to transfer facilities from cooling to heating.

Affected facilities have been identified. As soon as the weather warrants, the switch will be accomplished, 81st CES officials said.

For building occupants, the impact depends on the type of heating, ventilating and air conditioning system serving the facility, according to the civil engineers.

Many newer buildings have four-pipe

systems that can provide both heating and cooling year-round.

Most older facilities, including dormitories and billeting, have two-pipe systems that can only cool or heat at any one time and must be manually switched. It takes an average of 72 hours to complete the process.

Once the older facilities are switched to heating, they won't be switched back to cooling until spring. Civil engineers said in the event of an unseasonably warm spell, this may result in some temporary discomfort.

Civil engineers are working with lodging management, consolidated dorm management and other affected users to determine the best days to change to heating to minimize discomfort to residents.

Affected facilities: Building 823, military family housing office, Muse Manor, 81st Training Wing headquarters, NCO Academy, Airman Leadership School, Locker House, Larcher Chapel, Shaw House, Simmons Manor, 81st Transportation Squadron, Avery Manor, Triangle Chapel, and 20, 48, 49 and 50 block dorms.

KEESLER NOTES

Sponsor training

Training for people who are sponsoring new arrivals to Keesler is 10-11 a.m. Wednesday in Room 122, old Cody Hall.

For more information, call Jennifer Johnson, 377-5990.

Smooth Moves

The family support center's Smooth Moves program for families planning a permanent change of station is 9 a.m. to noon Dec. 8 in Room 122, old Cody Hall.

For more information, call Jennifer Johnson, 377-5990.

GriefShare

GriefShare Support Group meetings resume, 11 a.m. Dec. 4 at the Larcher Chapel.

For more information, call Glenda Woodard, 377-5032, or Chaplain (Capt.) Winston Jones, 377-2761.

Bunko lunch

A Bunko lunch, 11 a.m. Dec. 6 at the Vandenberg Café, is hosted by the Keesler Officers Spouses Club.

Prizes are awarded. For more information, call Michelle Harper, 327-6848.

Toastmasters

The At Eze Toastmasters Club is meeting again, noon Tuesdays in the Building 1101 conference room.

For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Don Seaton, 377-5958, or Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Preschool program

The part-day preschool program has openings for 3-5-year-olds in the 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. sessions.

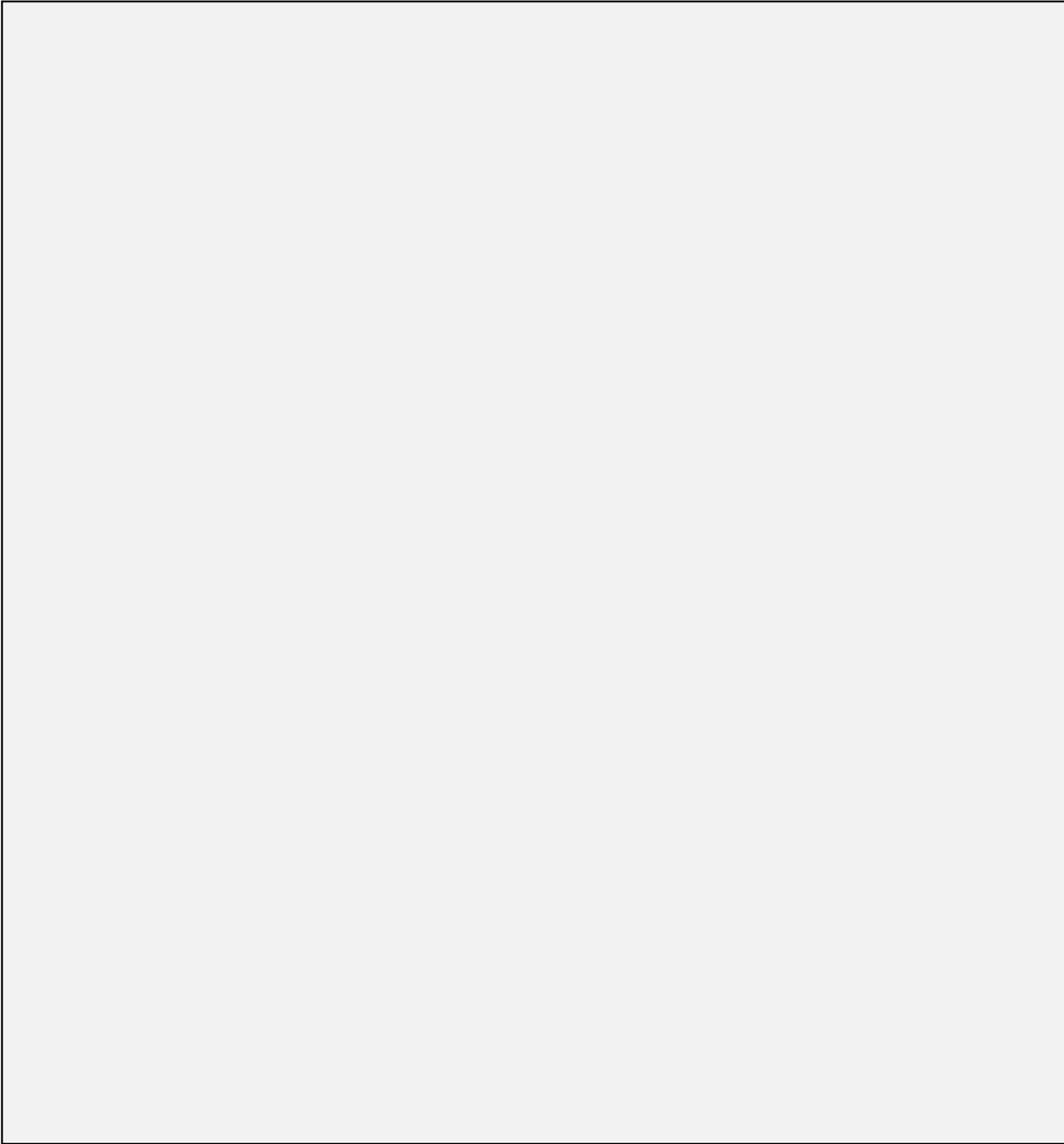
Classes are Mondays-working Fridays at the youth center.

Enrollment is at the child development center.

For more information, call 377-2211.

Fitting gas masks

Gas masks are fit tested 8-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Building 420, east of Fisher House on Fisher Street.



SPORTS AND RECREATION

Smokin' run



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Maureen Koch, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron, runs the final stretch of the Great American Smokeout five kilometer run with "Mr. Butts" near the Blake Fitness Center Nov. 17. The winner was Jeff Reiss with a time of 21 minutes and 17 seconds. Koch was the first female to cross the finish line in 23:20. The run, sponsored

by the Health and Wellness Center, was the 15th time Keesler has observed the Great American Smokeout. It was started in conjunction with the American Cancer Society as a way to bring attention to the dangers of tobacco use.

Bay Breeze golf course re-opens nine holes on Dec. 1

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

Bay Breeze Golf Course re-opens nine of 18 holes Dec. 1.

For now, golfers can play for free, according to Mel Raley, community support flight chief.

The golf course has been closed since Hurricane Katrina struck the base Aug. 29.

"We would like to have 14 or 15 holes, depending on the condition of the 18th hole, but we'll definitely have the front nine available to Keesler personnel," Raley said.

"At some point, we will have some sort of rate system, but until at least January, the golf course and the driving range will be free," he said.

Keesler, flag football players gobble up first-ever Turkey Bowl tourney

By Staff Sgt. Lee Smith

Keesler News staff

The first Turkey Bowl, a double-elimination tournament flag football, is providing Keesler personnel a chance to participate in pigskin action.

As of Thursday, two of the 10 participating teams are undefeated: Da' Dynasty (3-0) and the 81st Medical Support Squadron Log Dogs (2-0). Four teams — the 338th Training Squadron; the Air Force Office of Special Investigation, Det. 407 team; and both of the 335th TRS teams — have been eliminated.

The 81st Medical Group, the 336th TRS Red Wolves, the 81st Communi-

cations Squadron, and the 338th TRS team 2, join Da' Dynasty and the Log Dogs as the six teams still eligible in the quest to become the first Turkey Bowl champions.

According to James Grubb, sports director, the first week of the tournament went well.

"I can tell by the way each team has played that they have spent some time practicing," he said. "It's very common early in a tournament such as this to see some sloppy play and lots of penalties just because the players haven't played in a while. So far, each of the games have had very few penalties and have been competitive."

The most competitive game of the tournament so far saw the Log Dogs slip past the 338th TRS, 21-18, Nov. 17.

In other action, the 336th TRS Red Wolves upended the 335th TRS Bulls 13-6; Da' Dynasty slid past the 81st Medical Group 19-13; the 81st CS trounced the 338th TRS, 35-7, and the 81st CS edged the AFOSI, Det. 407, 26-20, Wednesday.

In the first game of the tournament, the 81st MDSS Log Dogs handled the 338th TRS, 27-13, Tuesday.

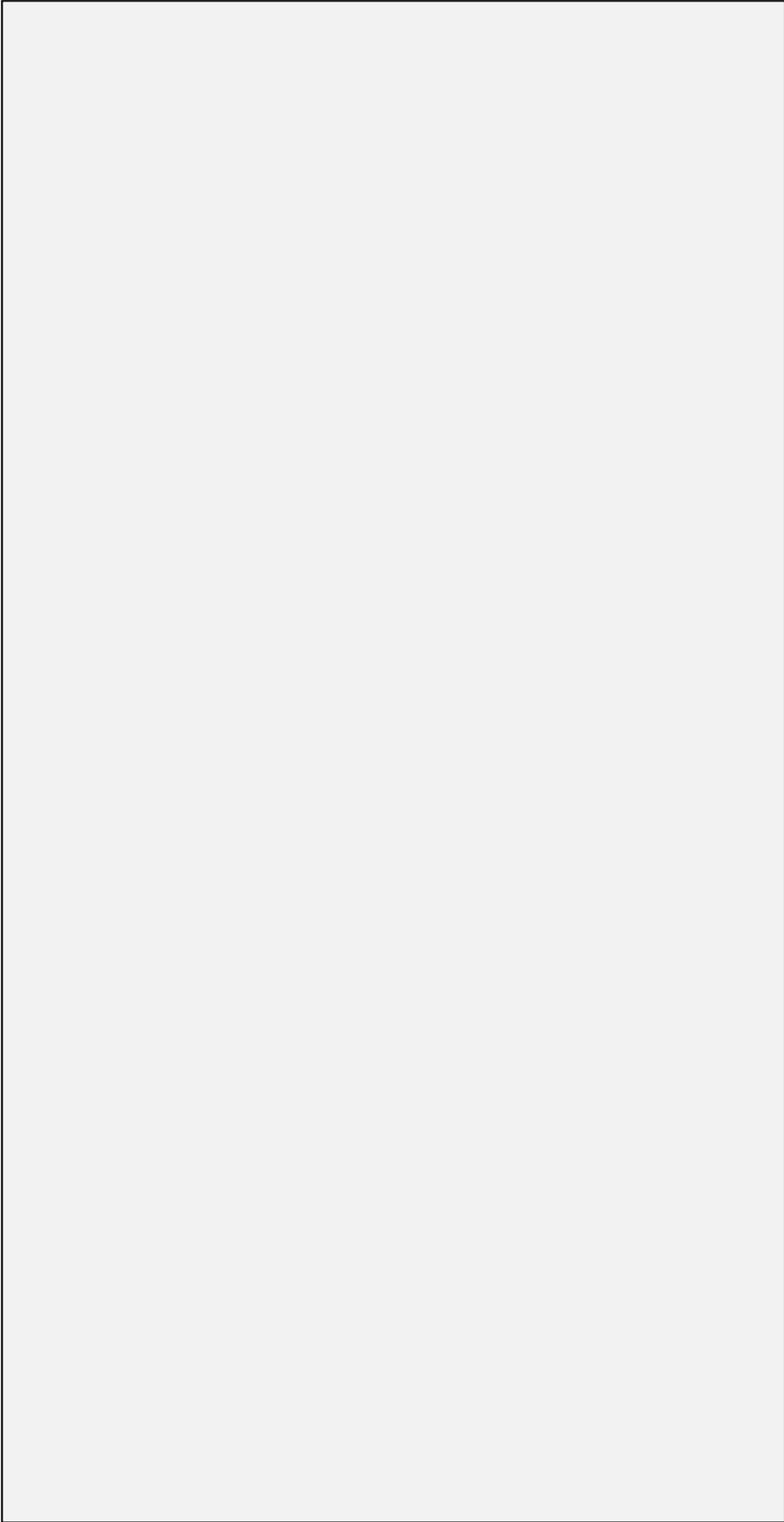
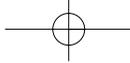
The 336th TRS Red Wolves were shut out by Da' Dynasty, 26-0; the 81st MDG easily got by the 335th

TRS Bulls, 27-8; and the 81st CS won by forfeit over the 335th TRS Team 2, Nov. 17.

This tournament is the first Keesler intramural sports action since Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast Aug. 29.

The flag football season has been cancelled and the status of the intramural basketball and volleyball seasons are questionable.

A full recap of the championship game, to be played 6:15 p.m. today, will be in the Dec. 1 Keesler News.



Air Force sponsors raft race for deployed troops in Iraq

By Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy

386th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

CAMP BUCCA, Iraq — Airmen, Soldiers and Sailors traded their military vehicles and weapons for homemade boats and paddles to take part in the first-ever Camp Bucca Raft Race.

The Air Force-sponsored race, held Nov. 13 on a small pond here, matched the talents and ingenuity of 17 teams vying for the top prize and camp bragging rights.

John Oblinger, from the 886th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, said the objective was for a two-person team to build a raft — from any material they could get their hands on — navigate it around a small island and return to the finish line.

Of the 17 teams, only two all-Air Force teams competed in an Army dominated event.

Finishing first was “Team Wilson,” made up of the Army’s Fawn Armstrong and Mark Khoury.

They won more than \$100 worth of Army and Air Force Exchange Service merchandise.

The best Air Force finish was by Micah Spicer and Cameron Riely, security forces troops. They finished sixth overall.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy
Ashanti Charles, left, and Christie Swehle kick their way back to shore when their boat didn’t finish the raft race. They both are deployed from Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The second Air Force team — Ashanti Charles and Christie Swehle, also security forces troops — didn’t fare very well. They didn’t make it more than 10 yards before their troubles began.

Oblinger said this type of event builds camaraderie between the services.

“These events give (Camp Bucca troops) a chance to meet their fellow comrades outside the normal work environment,” he said. “We hope the race becomes a tradition at Camp Bucca.”

SCORES AND MORE

Bowling

Gaude Lanes — open from 5-10 p.m., Monday-Friday; 3-10 p.m., Saturday and 3-7 p.m. Sunday. The bowling center is open to Keesler personnel only.

Fitness centers

Blake Fitness Center — 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-through working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. non-working Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Dragon Fitness Center — open Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed non-working Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. The basketball court area isn’t available.

Triangle Fitness Center — closed until further notice.

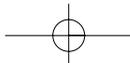
Outdoor recreation

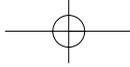
Outdoor recreation is located in Building 6734, the enclosed pavilion in marina park.

Katrina Kantina — a lounge for staff sergeants and above, is in the main marina building. Hours are 3:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. For more information, call 377-3160.

Youth activities center

Fam camp — available for mission-essential active-duty, civilian and contractors, and non-mission essential active-duty who’ve been displaced. For more information, call 594-0543.





DIGEST

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Nicholas Bishop, Steven Brumley, Daniel Carr, Dane Collins, Jeremy Driscoll, Kohn Fisher, Buddy Franklin, Jason Frisby, Colin Hoffert, Kristina Hyltuft, Marcus Kimm, Christopher Mahoney, Cavin Meneses, Matthew Metzger, Robert Miler, Justin Offett, Arnel Ramos, Ryan Stine, Antonio Tirado, Zachary Waldon and Aaron Winans; Airmen David Johnson, Scott Jones, James Little, Gregory Nordquist, Roderick Quinto, Matthew Sanderson and Daniel Wiltcher; Airmen 1st Class Paul Amasol, Wesley Cato, Amy Childers, Derrick Dugay, Pedro Estrada-Carreres, Christopher Flesner, Jeremy James, Joshua Johnson, Toby Ketchman, Noel Morgan, Jose Navarro, David Nicholson, Jeffrey Payne, Eric Ratajczak, Alexander Tomtschik and Alton Wingate; Senior Airman Kelly Finn; Staff Sgts. Dante Adams and Ismael Lopez.

335th TRS

Weather training flight — Navy Airmen Recruit Sharon Anthony, Brandon Davis, Daniel Miles and Tesse Smith; Navy Airman Apprentice Leilani Rojas; Navy Airmen Shemeka Barber and Nathan Perry; Navy Petty Officers 3rd Class Brandon Long and Luis Rivera.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems training flight — Airman Basic Kevin Glavin and Mark Vieira; Airmen 1st Class Jeffrey Alt, James Buchanan, Johnathan Hughes, James West and William Widey.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Thanksgiving Day

Editor's note: Hours for these base facilities reflect changes in observance of the Thanksgiving Day federal holiday, Thursday. Any exchange facilities not listed are closed.

- Inns of Keesler** — open 24 hours.
- Car wash** — open 24 hours.
- Fam camp** — open 24 hours.
- Mini-mart** — 7 a.m. to midnight.
- Magnolia and Pecan dining facilities** — 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 4:40-6:30 p.m. Thursday
- Pecan Dining Facility** — 7-8 a.m., 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 4:30-6 p.m.
- Blake Fitness Center** — 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Outdoor recreation** — closed Thursday-Sunday.
- Vandenberg Community Center** — 11 a.m. to midnight Thursday-Saturday; noon to 6 p.m. Sunday.
- Half Time Café** — 11 a.m. to midnight.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass
Larcher Chapel10 a.m.
Daily Mass
Larcher Chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday worship
Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.
Fishbowl student contemporary service.....10 a.m.
Larcher Chapel praise and worship service11:30 a.m.
Larcher Chapel gospel service.....1 p.m.

Islamic

Building 2003 — for international students, temporary duty and permanent party; prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jumma congregational prayer, noon Friday.
For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 3 p.m. Sundays, Fishbowl. Family home evenings, 7 p.m. Mondays, Fishbowl Student Center.

Arts and crafts center — closed Thursday-Saturday.
Auto hobby shop — closed Thursday-Saturday.
Magnolia and Live Oak dining facilities — closed.
Keesler Club — closed.
Enlisted lounge — closed.
Katrina Kantina — closed Thursday and Friday.
Bay Breeze Golf Course — closed.
Dragon Fitness Center — closed Thursday and Friday.
Triangle Fitness Center — closed.
Information, ticket and travel office — closed Thursday and Friday.
Keesler Community Center — closed.
Youth activities center — closed Thursday and Friday.
Child development center — closed.
Family child care — closed Thursday and Friday.
Gaudé Lanes — closed Thursday and Friday.
McBride Library — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today; closed Thursday and Friday.
Veterinary clinic — closed Thursday and Friday.
Triangle mini-mall — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday.
Furniture store — closed Thursday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.
Service station — closed Thursday; gas, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Military clothing sales — closed Thursday and Friday.
Dawg Daze Hot Dogs — closed Thursday; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Subway — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday.
General Nutrition Center — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Triangle barber shop — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Triangle beauty shop — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Triangle laundry/cleaners — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Military Rent-All — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Enterprise Car Rental — closed Thursday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.
Medical services — closed Thursday, minimally manned Friday. A clinic operates through the first aid station, and the lab and pharmacy, including the refill pharmacy at the Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center, are minimally manned. The Triangle clinic isn't manned, but students can be seen at the first aid station. A dentist is on call, and ambulance service is available 24/7.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Classes haven't resumed yet.

First Term Airmen Center

Classes scheduled to resume in January.

Keesler NCO Academy

Current class runs through Dec. 16 at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. No decision has been made about other classes at this time.

Health and wellness center

Stress management — 3 p.m. Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28.
Tobacco cessation — classes resume in January. To register, call 377-5305.

PROMOTIONS

2005 Air Force Personnel Center boards

Dec. 5-16 — major line, CHAP, JAG, BSC, MSC.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies at Welch Auditorium

Editor's note: Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recorded message about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 7 p.m., Domino (R).
Saturday — 2 p.m., Into the Blue (PG-13); 7 p.m., A History of Violence (R).
Sunday — 2 p.m., Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit (G).

DINING HALL MENUS

Thanksgiving

Lunch and dinner — roast turkey, baked ham, steamship round of beef, shrimp cocktail, yogurt, corn-bread dressing, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, green beans, corn, peas, carrots, macaroni salad, fruit cocktail gelatin, cranberry sauce, pumpkin and pecan pies, devil's food cake, candy and icecream.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, swiss steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, clam chowder, garden vegetable soup, frontier chicken chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti and meat sauce, Italian sweet sausage, garlic toast, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli polonaise, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, pasta salad, three-bean salad, cornbread, clam chowder, vegetable soup, chicken chili, corn O'Brien, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — crispy baked chicken, cajun meatloaf, ribeye steak, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, French peas, glazed carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almonde, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, bean soup, chicken gumbo, chili and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Lunch — tuna and noodles, sauerbraten, chicken breast filet parmesan, au gratin potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, peas, fried cabbage, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, spinach lasagna, orange rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, black-eyed peas, lima beans, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, jellied spring salad, vegetable beef soup, Italian wedding soup, frontier chicken chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — baked chicken, Swiss steak, baked Italian sausage, peppers and onions, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli polonaise, carrots, cornbread, cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — turkey, cornbread, ham, raisin sauce, fish and fries, mashed potatoes, cornbread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Dinner — onion lemon baked fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and spaghetti, garlic toast, baked and mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, stewed tomatoes, spinach salad, waldorf salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, chicken noodle soup and steak and cheese subs.

Lunch — paprika beef, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, garlic toast, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, spinach salad, white chicken chili, seven-bean with ham soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken and pork chops, beef fajitas, jalapeno cornbread, refried beans, corn, gravy, pinto beans, peas and carrots, cole slaw, garden cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza.

Dinner — pita pizzas, country-style steak, fried chicken, potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, bean combo, cabbage, coleslaw, cottage cheese salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese, fishwich and cheese pizza.

